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ABSTRACT

This book provides preservice and in-service educators with information about the four most prevalent culturally diverse groups in the United States and describes components of responsive multicultural education programs. The text staunchly maintains that multicultural education programs should be a total school effort involving all school personnel. Curriculum, instructional strategies, materials, environment, and school practices should reflect multiculturalism and show a genuine respect for all forms of diversity. Part I documents increasing cultural diversity of the United States, looks at selected types of diversity, and introduces multicultural education as a concept. Part II provides a cultural portrait of children and adolescents in Native American, African American, Asian American, and Hispanic American cultures; discusses particular educational practices and other factors impeding the educational success of students in these ethnic groups; and suggests appropriate educational strategies, classroom techniques, and learning activities. Part III focuses on multicultural education and suggests aspects to consider when planning and implementing programs that teach acceptance and respect for cultural diversity. Part IV examines issues that will continue to challenge educators in the 21st century, including racism, language and communication issues, and professional responsibilities related to multicultural education. The text includes culture quizzes, case studies, research applications, suggested readings, suggested children's literature, and learning activities for teachers and students. This book contains over 300 references, a list of learning style assessment instruments, and an index. (KS)